

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0039.] with the following amended paragraph:

[0039] More particularly, **Figures 5A** and **5B** show two views of self supporting zirconia-3 mole % yttria electrolyte sheet **10** supporting electrodes **52**, **54** in the form of rectangular segments connected through small vias (holes) **56** in the electrolyte sheet **10**. The top plane of the electrode-electrolyte assembly is shown in **Figure 5A**. **Figure 5B** is a schematic elevational cross sectional view of a five-cell section of the electrode-electrolyte assembly shown in **Figure 5A**. According to this embodiment the electrode/electrolyte assembly **50** includes a plurality of cathode-anode ~~anode-cathode~~ pairs **52**, **54**. The cathode-anode ~~anode-cathode~~ pairs **52**, **54** are separated from one another by via galleries **55**. The via galleries **55** include a plurality of interconnects (called "via interconnects") **56'** situated in the vias (via holes) **56**. These interconnects **56** conduct electronic current from the anode of one cell to the cathode of an adjacent cell. It is preferable that the body of the electrolyte sheet **10** which is located under the electrodes (anode(s) and cathode(s)) is relatively thin. That is, it is preferable that -of 50% and more preferably 75% of the area under the electrodes be thinned. This design is notable for the absence of expensive interconnect plates.